

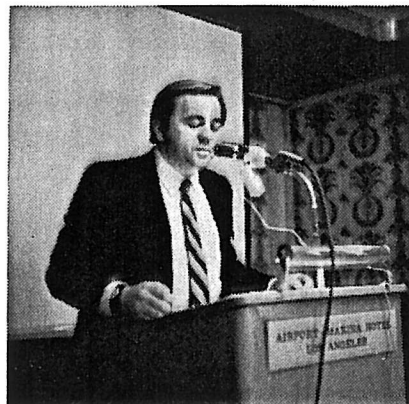
THE OUTLOOK

June, 1970

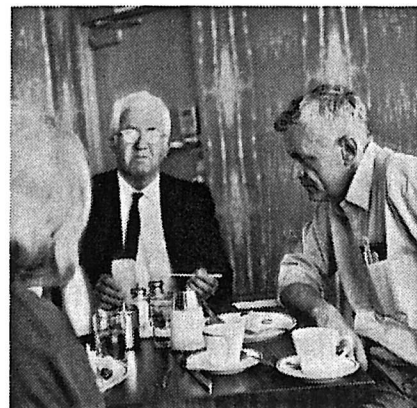
Vol. 1, No. 6



8.



1



2.

3RD ANNUAL

National Cryonics Conference

MAY 15-16, 1970
AIRPORT MARINA HOTEL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



7.



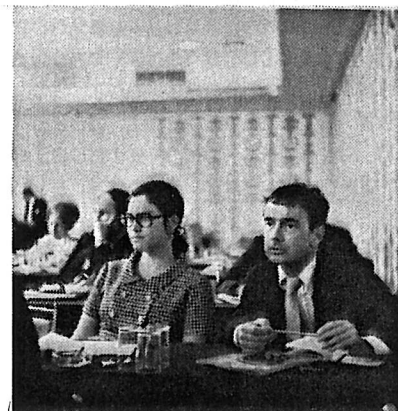
3.



6.



5.



4.

THE OUTLOOK is published monthly by the Cryonics Society of Michigan, 24041 Stratford, Oak Park, Michigan 48237. Copyright 1970 by the Cryonics Society of Michigan. All rights reserved. Editorial Board: Mae A. Junod, R. C.W. Ettinger, Patrick R. Dewey. Address editorial correspondence to Mae Junod, 33160 Karin Dr., Sterling Heights, Michigan 48077.

NATIONAL CRYONICS CONFERENCE

Front Page Picture Identification

1. Bob Nelson delivering the final conference presentation.
2. Joe Cannon (left) and John Bull.
3. Joseph Klockgether.
4. Lee Maynor and Richard Jones.
5. Conley Hall.
6. (Left to right) Jack Erfurt, George Lantos, Holly Martin, Paul Porcasi and Dawn Christensen.
7. George Lantos (left) and Dr. M. Coleman Harris.
8. (Left to right) Carol (Mrs. Marshall) Neel, Theresa (Mrs. Joseph) Cannon and Elaine (Mrs. Robert) Nelson.

Editor's note: The conference was covered by Conley Hall, as special reporter for THE OUTLOOK, and Bob Ettinger. Their accounts follow.

Notes from Bob Ettinger

The Third Annual National Cryonics Conference--May 15 and 16 in Los Angeles--was stimulating, enjoyable and productive, with a good mix of scientific papers, cryonics polemics, interpretation, and entertainment. All this was topped off on Sunday, May 17, by a visit to the permanent storage facility of Cryonic Interment, Inc. in a cemetery.

CSM representatives included Conley Hall, John Erfurt, Robert Ettinger, George Lantos (now a student at Cal. Tech.), and Neil Lucas (now an Air Force test pilot in California).

Other delegations from out of town included John Bull and family from New York; Cdr. and Mrs. Loren Fitzgerald from San Diego; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cannon from Appleton, Wisconsin; Dr. M. Coleman Harris, Roy Yates, Ashley Hendrix, Michele Navarette, Jerry White and Art Quaife from San Francisco; and a number of speakers.

At one of the informal gatherings during the week-end it was proposed by Dr. Harris, and tentatively approved by the others present (subject to ratification by the directors of the various Cryonics Societies) that the Fourth Annual Cryonics Conference and Scientific Congress would be held in San Francisco, perhaps the first week-end of May, 1971.

At the Friday evening banquet there was professional entertainment by the television comedy team of Clair and McMahon, and by country-music singer and composer Dorsey Burnette.

Dick Clair (actually Richard Jones) has been a long-time member of the Cryonics Society of California, and a tireless worker for cryonics. Mr. Burnette recently joined CSC. One of his songs, "Suspended Animation", delighted the audience. (We have a copy of the record. The song may be used in the film version of Robert Nelson's and Sandra Stanley's book, We Froze the First Man.)

The conference was concluded late Saturday afternoon. The following summaries of the presentations are not complete either in number or

content, but we hope they reflect most of the important ideas and issues.

Dr. Gouras - Science Breakthrough

The most exciting presentation was that of Dr. Peter Gouras: "How Tolerant is the Mammalian Central Nervous System to Ischemia, Anemia and Dimethylsulfoxide?" Among other things Dr. Gouras' work shows that the cat retina--a part of the central nervous system, an extension of the brain--even though an extremely sensitive and rapidly metabolizing subsystem is much hardier than previously thought; it can stand at least one hour without blood supply (ischemia).

This discovery ties in with other work mentioned by Dr. Gouras--for example, a report in Science (April 17, 1970) in which workers at the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research (Cologn-Merheim, Germany) report that the cat brain apparently can recover most or all of its functions after more than an hour without blood or oxygen.

Dr. Gouras--who is a research physician at the National Institutes of Health and a member of the Scientific Advisory Council, CSA--reminded us that almost every scientist and physician has believed that 10 minutes of ischemia means irreversible damage to the mammalian brain and ultimate death. Now we see this was a myth.

The main problem apparently was that, after cutting off the blood supply, swelling of certain tissues prevented effective renewed circulation; but this problem was overcome in the German experiments simply by raising the blood pressure

The Science report, by K.A. Hossman

and K. Sato, "Recovery of Neuronal Function after Prolonged Cerebral Ischemia", concludes:

The fact that unequivocal signs of neuronal recovery can be detected after complete ischemia of more than one hour's duration raises serious questions about the reliability of criteria currently used for the determination of brain death. Furthermore, our experiments suggest that concrete chances exist for the successful treatment of prolonged cerebral ischemia.

The implications of these findings, as reported by Dr. Gouras, are profoundly encouraging to cryonists.

Legal Aspects

Professor Daniel M. Schuyler, Northwestern University School of Law, spoke Saturday morning on "Cryonics and its Effects on the Rule against Perpetuities."

Professor Schuyler did an excellent job of clarifying for the layman the problems of providing funds for perpetual care and rehabilitation of cryonic suspendees.

His conclusions were similar to those reached earlier by the legal committee of the Cryonics Society of New York. They also tied in with a paper presented in absentia by Curtis Henderson, an attorney and President of the Cryonics Society of New York.

Mr. Henderson's paper (read by Mr. John Bull, a CSNY member) was pointed and witty (their motto: freeze, wait, litigate), and was accompanied by a newly drafted

legal form, constituting a written agreement between the Society and any member who names the Society his life insurance beneficiary.

One of the early and urgent tasks of the CSM Board of Directors will be to consider the adoption of the same or a similar form in Michigan. We are all grateful to Mr. Henderson and CSNY for providing direction here.

Dr. Frank--Controversial

The spark of controversy was ignited by the presentation of Dr. Benjamin Frank, M.D. whose paper, "Therapy for Aging", was sharply challenged by Dr. Gouras and Dr. Harris, who decried the dearth of quantitative records which would clearly prove and measure the improvement reported by Dr. Frank in patients he had treated.

Somewhat similar to his paper presented last year in Ann Arbor, Dr. Frank's thesis was that certain nucleic acids, taken in food or by injection or, apparently, even through the skin in lotions, can reverse some of the signs of aging in humans.

Dr. Frank claimed some of his patients have shown obvious improvement such as better skin tone and marked increase in vigor and strength.

He defended his lack of supporting data as being due to lack of money to secure the staff needed to maintain elaborate controls and records. He insisted the changes were obvious and unequivocal. Some of his patients had half-face treatments.

The Cryonics Societies will try to arrange inspection visits to such patients which will include photography.

The dominant impression seemed to be that Dr. Frank had not proved his case but that he should not be written off without further investigation. In any case, he traveled from New York at his own expense to allow us to hear of his work.

Mortician's Role

Joseph Klockgether, Director of the Renaker Mortuary in Buena Park, California, spoke on the mortician's role in relation to cryonics.

Mr. Klockgether (together with Frederik Horn of St. James, N.Y.) is one of the two most experienced morticians in cryonics, having helped freeze several people.

His main point was that morticians provide a public service and should offer cryonic suspension as an alternative to burial to give widest expression to such a service.

A mild point of disputation arose from his assertion that morticians should deal primarily with the Society. Others in the audience felt that, from the standpoint of legal and financial responsibility, the family of the patient must take primary responsibility, with the Society operating only in an advisory role.

It is doubtful that in Michigan the Society could legally act for the family, even if it were willing to accept responsibility (financial).

As one of the really important people in cryonics to date, Mr. Klockgether received a rousing hand of applause.

Conley Hall Reports

Before the conference began I talked to Dr. M. Coleman Harris, President of the Bay Area Cryonics Society (California) and a member of the Scientific Advisory Council. Dr. Harris said that the BACS is looking for land with the idea of eventually building a storage facility. He said ample cooperation of morticians had been obtained in the San Francisco Area.

I also talked to Joe Cannon about his storage facility, Hope Knoll. Joe hopes to have it completed and operational some time in 1972.

He has encountered many problems--local hostility, legal problems, etc., but, if I read Joe correctly, he will overcome all obstacles.

He has been working with a cryonics engineer in the design of a new type of storage unit that will hold four patients, is expected to cost about \$10,000, and will have a liquid nitrogen boil-off of only about 6 liters per day. If these figures prove out, this will represent a dramatic reduction in total costs per patient, since liquid nitrogen is available within 25 miles of Hope Knoll at less than 7¢ per liter.

Joe and his wife, Theresa have invested more than \$20,000 so far in cryogenic storage facilities. Also, it was their activities which led to the Attorney General's opinion--the first of its kind--that cryogenic interment is legal in Wisconsin.

Joe feels that if he can make his Cryonic Suspension Institute function successfully it will pave the way for others trying to establish similar facilities.

Friday Speakers

Dr. Edward K. Chook, M.D., University of California, Berkeley, was lead off speaker for the conference. In his presentation, "Environmental Stress and the Aging Process", Dr. Chook explained the two main theories of aging and talked about the interdependence of man and his environment.

--

Professor Rita Castellano-Smith, a member of the faculty of Pierce College, Los Angeles was the only feminine speaker.

Her paper, "Anthropological Evolution of Attitudes Toward Death", dealt with the attitudes of various primitive cultures (as well as those of more sophistication) many of which she felt will have to be changed if man is to achieve immortality.

She also discussed the ideas of a number of eminent scientists regarding directed evolution and genetic engineering.

I received the impression that, in general, anthropologists feel that the human race, as it now exists, is doomed. Dr. Castellano-Smith's ideas seemed to be mostly centered around collective rather than individual goals.

--

Professor Harry H. Elden, Associate, Chemistry/Biology, Barry College, Florida, discussed experiments with rat tail connective tissue in "Low Temperature Tissue Preservation."

--

Cloning, the propagation of tissue from clusters of cells, or buds, was the subject of Dr. (Ph.D.) Robert D. Enzmann's talk, "Clones and Immortality Treatments."

Culture grown organs, the elimination of rejection problems, and the possibility of chemically induced hibernation were the high points of Dr. Enzmann's discussion.

Luncheon Recess

The conference recessed for lunch after Dr. Enzmann spoke. Bob Ettinger was the speaker for the luncheon.

He reported hearing that Dr. Suda had revived some cat brains that had been frozen several years. He emphasized that the information was verbally and informally received, and that efforts would be made to verify it.

Bob also told us that the thirteenth cryonic suspension had recently taken place on the East Coast.

After discussing the May 21 panel on mercy freezing in Detroit and the possibility of seeking a declaratory judgement to sanction it, Bob and Russ Van Norden (husband of Marie Sweet, the first woman cryogenically suspended) hurried off to a television date at KHJ-TV.

The conference did not begin in the afternoon until Bob and Russ returned. Most of us watched the show. They were given a good amount of time by the program (about twenty minutes) and the treatment was friendly.

Polywater--Anomaly

The possibility that polywater, a kind recently discovered, reportedly by Russian scientists, might replace or enhance glycerine and DMSO as a cryoprotective agent was dealt with in a paper prepared by Stanley W. Mayer, Ph.D., Aerospace Corporation, Los Angeles,

but read by Fred Chamberlin, a CSC member, "Polywater and the Physical Chemistry of Suppressing Damage to Organs During Freezing and Thawing."

Polywater has qualities that are quite unlike those of any other liquid. It is so stable it boils only at about 1,000 F, much higher than normal water. It does not evaporate noticeably. It does not freeze normally, but hardens at -40°F into a glassy substance.

Physicist Frank Donohoe of Wilkes College in Pennsylvania has stated that polywater could be a danger as it might have the ability to propagate itself by feeding on normal water. Because polywater is dense and inert it could stop all other life processes.

However, this danger is generally considered too remote for worry. Most scientists think that this mysterious new substance could be developed--if a means of mass production were devised--as a substitute for antifreeze, a super-lubricant, or fluid for steam engines which would be much more efficient than those in use.

At present there has been only a minute quantity of polywater produced all over the world.

Saturday Notes

Fred Martin, an insurance man and veteran cryonicist, spoke on costs and funding. He delineated procedures that anyone serious about cryonic suspension should follow, viz.:

1. Get, and always wear, a MedicAlert bracelet.
2. Join a cryonics society.
3. Execute body authorization.

4. Obtain relatives' affidavit of approval.
5. Arrange for adequate funding for one's own suspension, including rehabilitation.

Fred's estimate of the cost of suspension was \$25,000 for the full package, including preparation, perpetual maintenance, resuscitation and rehabilitation.

Fred feels that the inflationary costs will be balanced by the eventual decrease in the cost of cryonic suspension. He also made the point that whole life insurance is the safest way to meet the cost of suspension.

At the Saturday luncheon there was a substitute speaker, Fr. Donald Maloney, replacing Fr. Manuel, who was ill. Interestingly, Fr. Manuel, a heart patient, had once been clinically dead for five minutes, and for this reason felt a closer personal interest in cryonics than the average person.

Fr. Maloney, also a Jesuit, although new to cryonics, spoke in a rather knowledgeable and friendly way and offered no theological objections to the movement.

A youth panel included Gregory Fahy, president of the Cryonics Youth Association and editor of Cryonics News, and Linda McClintock, a CSC member who was one of the principal workers in preparing the conference.

Roy Yates, Director of the Marin County Day School, and for some time a cryonics activist, also died for five minutes a few years ago. This, as well as a second brush with death, caused him, like Fr. Manuel, to feel more closely aligned with cryonics.

Mr. Yates spoke on the strategy

and tactics of the Societies, their external and internal relationships. He suggested that we need a national organization.

He also presented a list of "do's" and "don'ts" to be aware of that were hilarious as well as germane. (The list may be published in THE OUTLOOK in a future issue.)

Jerome B. White read a dramatic scenario set in the near future in which electronic bracelets and x-ray equipment were standard equipment for cryonicists and their facilities. Mr. White is an officer of the Bay Area Cryonics Society.

Robert Nelson, President of CSC, concluded the conference with his presentation, "Cryonics--a Step into Tomorrow." This included a slide showing of a series of cartoons from The New Yorker, a trenchant and amusing commentary which we may reproduce in THE OUTLOOK eventually.

I think that Dr. Gouras and Bob Ettinger were easily the two most significant speakers--Dr. Gouras because of the importance of his report. (At lunch, before he presented his paper, he referred to it as a "small breakthrough". It is a great deal more than that.

Bob's talk had great inspirational value as well as some solid ideas for the advancement of cryonics. I considered the talk, "Life Prolongation and the New Melliorism", brilliant and hope it will appear in THE OUTLOOK.

Bob received a standing ovation of long duration. It was made clear at that time and throughout the rest of the day that Bob has the unreserved respect and affection of all cryonicists.

MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH--

MERCY FREEZING PANEL DISCUSSION

The panel discussion of "mercy freezing", presented on Thursday evening, May 21, at the Southfield Civic Center, yielded some significant opinions.

In regard to the moral aspects, little of new import was uncovered. It seemed apparent that one big hangup in any religious relationship with cryonics is the belief of many lay Christians that the body and soul are not truly one and that physical dissolution is no great disaster. This leads to a denigration of the importance of extended bodily life.

Reverend Lawrence Bobbitt displayed wit and a general flexibility, but he appeared to subscribe to the above belief, or at least to feel that many of his parishioners did.

Judge S. James Clarkson was emphatic in his conviction that no precedent exists for the legality of mercy freezing; the apparent survival of Dr. Suda's frozen cat brains by no means proves that humans similarly frozen should be considered alive.

He seemed to feel the need of a fait accompli, followed by a court case, carried even up to the Supreme Court, should this prove necessary. That is, a physician should go ahead and freeze a terminally and incurably ill person, with the cooperation of the patient and family, and a legal defense should be ready against any suit or prosecution that might result. Judge Clarkson was sure many lawyers would be eager to defend such a case.

In comments and questions from the audience, Conley Hall pointed out

that only a fraction of the physicians in Monroe were willing to become involved in freezing even when applied after legal death, and as a practical matter we are very much in need of a declaratory judgement; we need positive legal sanction in advance.

Robert Ettinger presented the case for mercy freezing along with the idea that a better term should be formulated, conveying the concept of merciful release from suffering--not to death, but to potential improved life.

Dr. Robert Drews was both witty and perceptive as the moderator. He seemed convinced that psychological effects upon the patients and families would be nothing but beneficial.

An interesting sidelight on the evening was the international character of the audience.

Miss Margit Christensen of Copenhagen, Denmark, was present along with Judy Geiwitz, who lives in San Francisco and has recently become a member of BACS. Miss Christensen may initiate a Society in Denmark. Mr. Emil Fischman, who lives in Buenos Aires, was also in the audience.

Walter Runkel deserves highest praise for the superb job he has done on the van. It was parked outside the building and was both impressive and reassuring in its organization and efficient appearance.

Mrs. Runkel and their daughter, Joan, also contributed to the success of the evening; Joan was a lovely and charming introduction to the van, and her mother, among other talents, makes very good coffee.

Mae Junod, Chairman of the panel committee, wants to thank the people who worked with her and accomplished such fine results, including Elaine and Bob Ettinger, Joe Oskin, Pat Dewey, and Pat Bell.

It is felt that the cryonics movement is standing at something of a crossroads. With continued dedication, courage and effort it can go on to consolidate past gains and accomplish significant new ones.

However, it is going to take even more effort to achieve the possible heights. While support of the panel presentation was good, there is no doubt that much more could have been done by the membership at large.

The point cannot be made too strongly that it is your life and your future we are struggling to assure. In the months and years ahead extra efforts are going to have to be made, by all of us.

NEW DRUG MAY COMBAT SENILITY

The learning ability of senile rats has been greatly improved by use of a drug called NP113, according to Professor Paul Gordon of the University of Chicago School of Medicine. The substance, derived from a chemical normally produced by fatigued muscles, apparently helps build protein to make deteriorated brain cells function like younger ones. This item, reported by the UPI May 20, is yet another indication that senility is not irreversible. Perhaps Prof. Gordon could be persuaded to speak at the 1971 National Cryonics Conference in San Francisco.

"HISTORY ITSELF IS SPEEDING UP"

(Quotation from an article,

"Future Shock", by sociologist Alvin Toffler, that appeared in the February, 1970 issue of PLAYBOY. Submitted by Walter Runkel.)

This startling statement can be illustrated in a number of ways. It has been observed, for example, that if the past 50,000 years of man's existence were divided into lifetimes of approximately 62 years each, there have been 800 such lifetimes. Of these 800, fully 650 were spent in caves. Only during the past 70 lifetimes has it been possible to communicate effectively from one lifetime to another--as writing made it possible to do. Only during the past six lifetimes have masses of men ever seen a printed word. Only during the past four has it been possible to measure time with any precision. Only in the past two has anyone anywhere used an electric motor. And the overwhelming majority of all the material goods we use in daily life today have been developed within the present, the 800th lifetime.

FRENCH TV CRYONICS DOCUMENTARY

Stimulated by the impending publication of a French edition of Albert Rosenfeld's book, THE SECOND GENESIS, the French Television System is preparing a documentary on cryonics.

Director Claude Otzenberger and his crew spent a full week, after advance work, in filming on location in California, Michigan, and New York. (First week in June.)

In Michigan, CSM people filmed included the Ettingers, the Runkels, and the Oskins. Of course there were action shots of the van. We may get a copy of the film for our public relations use.